

Privy I
Behind cabin at Colfax and South Pass Avenue
Privy II
Behind ice house on South Pass Avenue
South Pass City
Fremont County
Wyoming

HABS No. WYO-44

HABS
WYO,
7-SOPAC,
17-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20005

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. WYO-44

PRIVY I AND II

HABS
WYO,
7-SOPAC,
17-Location:

Privy No. 1 is behind the cabin at Colfax and South Pass Avenue, South Pass City, Fremont County, Wyoming. Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: (USGS South Pass City Quadrangle Map) 12.680460.4704300.

Privy No. 2 is behind the ice house on South Pass Avenue, South Pass City, Fremont County, Wyoming. Universal Transverse Mercator Coordinates: (USGS South Pass City Quadrangle Map) 12.680980.4704020.

Present Owner:

Unknown.

Present Use:

None.

Statement of
Significance:

These structures served a necessary function in guarding public health on the western frontier. Privy No. 1 is typical of those privies built in the 1870's. Privy No. 2 is representative of the type built in the early twentieth century.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: Privy No. 1 ca. 1890; Privy No. 2 ca. 1910.
2. Original and subsequent owners: (Note: For further information on land ownership in South Pass City see the HABS Report on South Pass City, WYO-27.) The ownership of these community necessities is unknown.
3. Alterations and additions: Privy No. 1 had batt insulation added on the interior.

B. Sources of Information:

1. Old views:

Florin, Lambert. Western Ghost Towns. Seattle: Superior Publishing Company, 1961. View of Privy No. 1., p. 72.

Prepared by John Paige, Project Historian
National Park Service
Summer, 1973

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural character:

- a. Privy No. 1: Typical log privy similar to such structures used in the 1860's and 1870's.
- b. Privy No. 2: Typical of an early twentieth century privy.

2. Condition of fabric: Both structures are in poor condition.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions:

- a. Privy No. 1: A square structure 4'-4" x 4'-4".
- b. Privy No. 2: A rectangular structure 5'-4" x 3'-11".

2. Foundations: Neither structure has any foundation.

3. Wall construction, finish and color:

- a. Privy No. 1: Three-inch to four-inch diameter logs laid horizontally with notched corner joints. Original mud chinking no longer in existence.
- b. Privy No. 2: Unfinished, rough-sawn vertical boards and battens.

4. Structural system:

- a. Privy No. 1: Log bearing wall with log roof.
- b. Privy No. 2. Frame wall and roof.

5. Openings:

- a. Privy No. 1. Doorway on south (front) wall has no door. There are no other openings.
- b. Privy No. 2: In-swinging door in center of north (front) wall. There is a heart-shaped vent opening just below the center roof ridge on each side. There are no other openings.

6. Roof:

- a. Privy No. 1: Shed roof of logs with rusted metal sheet over part of logs.
- b. Privy No. 2: Gable roof of exposed boards with some pieces of green asphalt rolled roofing. There is a center vent stack at the ridge line.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans:

- a. Privy No. 1: Single room with one seat.
- b. Privy No. 2: Single room with three seats along southeast wall, one in each corner and one in the center.

2. Flooring: Evidence of wooden floors in each structure.

3. Wall and ceiling finish: Inside face of exterior walls in each structure.

D. Site:

1. General setting and orientation:

- a. Privy No. 1: Located behind its associated cabin and at the base of a hill rising behind both structures, the building is oriented 45 degrees east of south.
- b. Privy No. 2: Located near Willow Creek the structure is oriented 30 degrees west of north.

Prepared by J. William Rudd
Architect
Project Supervisor
National Park Service
Summer, 1973

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

These records were made during the 1973 Wyoming Project undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey in cooperation with the Wyoming Recreation Commission. During the project, records were made on twenty-eight (28) individual subjects and six (6) historic areas.

This project was under the general supervision of John Poppeliers, chief of the Historic American Buildings Survey. Project Supervisor was Professor J. William Rudd, Architect, of the University of Cincinnati. Project Historian was John Paige, Oklahoma State University. The measured drawings were prepared by John Uhler, University of California at Berkeley, Architect; and Student Assistant Architects Richard Duflocq, University of Cincinnati, Clayton Fraser, University of Tennessee, and Richard Wyatt, California Polytechnic University at San Luis Obispo. Jack E. Boucher, HABS staff photographer, provided the photographic record. This report was edited for HABS in 1977 by Candace Reed.